

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAFinal Results of Cereal and Hay Harvest, 1952-53.

Although there still are a few minor wheat districts where the completion of the collection has been delayed, and a number of odd returns from farmers in other districts are outstanding, a safe estimate has been made for all these and the totals now submitted may be accepted subject to slight alteration.

SEASONAL CONDITIONS. The average rainfall over the agricultural areas for April and May 1952 greatly exceeded the mean over the past 47 years. Generally speaking, the opening of the season was ideal although there was rather too much rain in the wetter districts and seeding was hindered. After the very wet opening, it was fortunate that the readings for June, July and August should be below the mean but **yet not** too dry. After those drier months, it was fortunate again that the September falls should be equal to the mean and be followed by above average falls with cool temperatures for the rest of the season. In fact, the harvesting conditions were so good that yields of all crops proved to be much higher than anticipated before actual harvesting. The April-November rainfall over the agricultural areas was 15.19 inches compared with the mean for the past 47 years of 12.33 inches. The average wheat yield of 21.97 bushels compares with the 47 year mean of 11.01 bushels. The previous highest yield of 18.18 bushels in 1942-43 was grown on 16.11 inches of rain and the 16.92 bushels in 1951-52 on 16.10 inches. The 16.74 bushels in 1950-51 were grown on 11.21 inches. The 1952-53 average yields of barley and oats were records also.

The yield of wheat is 33,900,570 bushels compared with the November estimate of 27,500,000; barley 25,871,634 compared with 21,500,000 and oats 6,669,826 compared with 6,250,000.

The total yields of wheat, barley and oats were 66,442,030 bushels from 2,849,699 acres, compared with the previous highest of 55,094,474 bushels from 3,587,161 acres in 1939-40 and 55,036,410 bushels from 3,905,461 acres in 1937-38.

NOTE:- The 1952/53 particulars are shown hereunder with those for 1951/52 in parentheses. For statistical purposes, the weight of bags is not counted as grain.

WHEAT:- The yield of 33,900,570 (27,300,839) bushels averaged 21.97 (16.92) bushels per acre from an area of 1,543,137 (1,613,126) acres including any areas failed. Including wheat for hay and green forage, the total area was 1,600,935 (1,687,897) acres.

WHEAT AND FALLOW:- On fallowed land 1,157,136 acres of wheat produced 27,985,622 bushels averaging 24.19 bushels per acre. On not fallowed land, there were 386,001 acres with 5,914,948 bushels averaging 15.32 bushels. The average yields the previous season were 18.06 bushels on fallow land and 13.21 on land not fallowed.

BARLEY:- The yield totalled 25,871,634 (16,825,996) bushels and the average per acre was 27.62 (20.23). 23,012,095 bushels were reported to be 2 row (malting) and 2,859,539 bushels 6 row. The acreage for grain was 936,618 (831,613) and for all purposes 952,675 (858,464). (The 1952/53 area, yield and average yield were records.)

OATS:- The yield totalled 6,669,826 (5,404,927) bushels and the average per acre was 18.03 (13.95). The acreage for grain was 369,944 (387,377) acres and for all purposes 700,600 (816,418). The 1952/53 yield and average yields were records.

CEREALS ETC. USED ON FARMS: Farmers reported that they used the following quantities of cereals, etc. on their farms during the twelve months ended March 1953. For seed - Wheat 1,743,474 Barley 1,169,820 and Oats 811,553 bushels. For feed for livestock and poultry - Wheat 841,616, Barley 572,246, Oats 916,022 bushels and Hay and Chaff 153,632 tons. Of the wheat produced in 1952-53, it was reported that 1,800,603 bushels were retained on the farms for seed and 437,916 bushels for feed.

RYE:- There has been a decided increase in the areas cropped with rye. In 1935-36 there were only 1,680 acres. For 1952/53 there was a total of 63,350 of which 56,930 (45,043) acres were for grain yielding 406,270 (206,534) bushels.

FIELD PEAS:- 441,569 (286,080) bushels from 24,168 (18,232) acres. 4,806 acres of field peas were fed off. Approximately the same area as in 1952-53 was intended to be sown for 1953-54.

HAY:- 211,118 (257,005) acres were cut for hay, wheaten being 49,522 (63,439) and oaten 99,131 (132,465) acres. The total yield was 312,452 (379,978) tons, wheaten being 80,349 (96,558) and oaten 136,512 (188,514). Average tons per acre were 1.48 (1.48).

ACREAGES:- The following table shows the total areas under wheat, barley and oats for all purposes, (grain, hay or green fodder) for 1930-31 - the maximum year; for 1943-44 - the lowest areas in recent years; for each of the last five seasons, and for 1953-54 representing the areas that farmers indicated they intended to sow when particulars of the recent harvest were being collected during the past 3 or 4 months. It is noted that the combined areas under wheat, barley and oats are practically stationary.

Season		Wheat	Barley	Oats	Total
1930-31	acres	4,507,213	267,369	519,300	5,293,882
1943-44	"	1,675,778	304,382	558,065	2,538,225
1948-49	"	2,159,218	728,398	622,588	3,510,204
1949-50	"	2,005,907	721,149	624,592	3,351,648
1950-51	"	1,950,076	793,717	664,498	3,408,291
1951-52	"	1,687,897	858,464	816,418	3,362,779
1952-53	"	1,600,935	952,675	700,600	3,254,210
1953-54	"	1,564,000	1,043,000	702,000	3,309,000

For 1952-53 the total area for barley and oats exceeded the area for wheat. This was the first time such had occurred. For 1953-54, the intended areas for barley and oats are considerably greater than for wheat.

VARIETIES SOWN:- Particulars of the acreages sown with the principal varieties of wheat, barley and oats are being published separately.

THE ATTACHED STATEMENTS show details of 1952/53 crops in Statistical Divisions and also the 1952/53 totals compared with the five previous seasons.

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GOVERNMENT STATIST.

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE.

20th July, 1953.

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
FINAL RESULTS OF CEREALS AND HAY, 1952-53.

1. ACREAGE CROPPED

Divisions	Total Cereals, Peas, Hay, Green Fodder	AREA FOR GRAIN			Hay. Total	Green Fodder
		Wheat	Barley	Oats		
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Central	821,594	279,655	335,625	49,633	90,786	48,780
Lower North	731,276	411,550	168,442	59,706	39,564	44,777
Upper North	138,009	101,647	12,357	10,567	5,955	6,094
South Eastern	135,338	30,687	26,036	31,063	32,720	13,379
Western	974,789	472,707	173,663	164,618	18,045	143,471
Murray Mallee	632,581	246,891	220,495	54,357	24,048	35,171
Total 1952/53	3,433,587	1,543,137	936,618	369,944	211,118	291,672
Total 1951/52	3,539,336	1,613,126	831,613	387,377	257,005	386,940
Increase	- 105,749	- 69,989	105,005	-17,433	-45,887	-95,268

2. PRODUCTION OF GRAIN AND HAY

Divisions	GRAIN						Hay Total Tons
	WHEAT		BARLEY		OATS		
	Bush.	Aver.	Bush.	Aver.	Bush.	Aver	
Central	7,210,424	25.78	10,913,450	32.51	1,096,346	22.09	146,312
Lower North	12,354,252	30.02	5,597,309	33.23	1,555,148	26.05	60,930
Upper North	2,491,920	24.52	291,825	23.62	239,160	22.63	8,121
South Eastern	700,900	22.84	595,061	22.86	781,317	25.15	53,206
Western	7,669,893	16.23	4,151,886	23.91	2,318,062	14.08	20,676
Murray Mallee	3,473,181	14.07	4,322,103	19.60	679,793	12.51	23,207
Total 1952/53	33,900,570	21.97	25,871,634	27.62	6,669,826	18.03	312,452
Total 1951/52	27,300,839	16.92	16,825,996	20.23	5,404,927	13.95	379,978
Increase	6,599,731	5.05	9,045,638	7.39	1,264,899	4.08	-67,526

3. FIVE YEARS' COMPARISON

Year	WHEAT			Rainfall Agric. April- Nov.	BARLEY	OATS
	Area	Yield	Aver. per Acre			
	Acres	Bush.	Bush.	Inches	Bush.	Bush.
1947-48	2,374,873	32,524,422	13.70	13.93	15,363,461	2,394,261
1948-49	2,063,034	26,136,346	12.67	11.73	12,103,446	2,643,419
1949-50	1,896,324	28,350,860	14.95	12.18	12,725,240	3,463,997
1950-51	1,847,791	20,936,044	16.74	11.21	16,727,030	3,533,333
1951-52	1,613,126	27,300,839	16.92	16.10	16,825,996	5,404,927
Mean	1,959,030	29,049,702	14.83	13.03	14,749,035	3,487,987
1952/53	1,543,137	33,900,570	21.97	15.19	25,871,634	6,669,826

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